

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 HEW-08 AID-20 IO-15 PM-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01 /113 W

----- 021829

R 050050Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 100

AMCONSUL ASMARA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 2506

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN, ET, CE

SUBJ: PROJECT HOPE

REF ADDIS ABABA 11357

1. PROJECT HOPE'S ACTIVITIES IN SRI LANKA LIMITED TO VISIT BY SHIP IN 1968. GENERAL IMPRESSION IS THAT VISIT WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL WITH ONGOING CONTACTS ESTABLISHED BETWEEN CEYLONese DOCTORS AND THEIR AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS. THERE WERE A FEW INCIDENTS INVOLVING MEMBERS OF SHIP'S CREW AND SOME RESENTMENT IN MEDICAL CIRCLES OF WHAT WAS REGARDED AS PATRONIZING APPROACH OF WHOLE PROJECT. OVER-ALL EFFECT, HOWEVER, WAS EXCELLENT AND ONE STILL HEARS EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION FOR TREATMENT GIVEN AND EQUIPMENT AND DRUGS DONATED.

2. JARRING NOTE WAS INTRODUCED TWO YEARS LATER IN BOOK (HOPE IN THE EAST: THE MISSION TO CEYLON) BY HOPE'S DIRECTOR, DR. WILLIAM B. WALSH, WHO MADE COMMENTS WHICH WERE CRITICAL OF CEYLONese DOCTORS AND CEYLONese MEDICAL FACILITIES. ALTHOUGH THERE WAS SHARP REACTION TO WALSH'S COMMENT FROM MEDICAL PROFESSION AND PRESS HERE AT THE TIME, THIS NOW APPEARS TO HAVE DISAPPEARED, WRITTEN OFF TO PERSONAL ECCENTRICITY. CEYLONese

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GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN RELAXED ATTITUDE TOWARD WALSH STATEMENT

AND WE BELIEVE CEYLONese EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, IN NOT
TOO DISTANT PAST, WAS EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF RETURN
VISIT BY PROJECT HOPE.
VAN HOLLEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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